

Appl. No. 09/903,365
Amdt. Dated September 23, 2004
Reply to Office action of June 24, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P13691-US2
EUS/JIP/04-2123

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1.) Claim Amendments

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended and claims 3 and 11 have been cancelled. Claims 1-2, 4-10 and 12-16 remain pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

2.) Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 3, 5, 7-8, 11, 13 and 15-16 as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but indicated such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter.

The Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 9 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 3 and 11, respectively. Accordingly, claims 1 and 9 are now allowable. Furthermore, whereas claims 2 and 4-8 are dependent from claim 1 and claims 10 and 12-16 are dependent from claim 9, and include the limitations thereof, those claims are also now allowable.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and Issue a Notice of Allowance for claims 1-2, 4-10 and 12-16.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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